The Nest…a small place where big things happen

Home Groups

The Nest has implemented a ‘home group’ model. Each child and their family are allocated to a Home group. The teacher and co-educator work towards establishing a warm, secure relationship with the child and a partnership with the parents. The home group educators ensure each child's needs and routines are met, taking a key role in noticing, wondering and learning with each child. The Home Group educators also have responsibility for communicating with each family, making links to home culture and contexts and documenting each child's learning. Through this model, children and families settle into the Nest and develop a sense of trust and reciprocity with the Home Group educators, other educators and the environment. This enables children to feel safe, secure and valued and encourages relationship-building with other educators, children and the wider school community.

Home group educators strive to become a secure base to support children's exploration and learning. They consider children holistically and are respectful of children's rights and developing emotional and social skills.

The Home Group Educators are the key to linking with families at the beginning of and conclusion of the day, building ongoing conversations about the child's strengths and leaps of discovery.

They are mainly responsible for the child's Learning Folder, photographs, Learning Stories, Reports and the child's individual learning programme. The Statements of Learning at the end of the year will be written by the Home Group educators in consultation with other Nest staff.

Other educators in the Nest will continue to develop relationships with all families, take photos and take opportunities to write Learning Stories should they 'notice' leaps of discovery, learning and development.